

## STUDENT RESPONSE

RESPONSE SCORE: 3 POINTS



10. Analyze the early influences that prepared Maria Mitchell for her career. Use examples from the passage to support your analysis.

One major influence that prepared Maria Mitchell for her career was the work she did with her father as a child. When she was 12 she assisted her father at work which required her to work with stellar observations. It was because of this that she observed her first total eclipse which left a lasting impression on her life. It was this even that inspired her to continue her work with the stars. Another influence was the education that Maria had the privilege to receive. She was lucky enough to have her father's friend Cyrus Pierce take interest in her, so much so that he taught her mathematics when that was unheard of for women at this time. These influences gave her the skills and drive that she needed to carry out her career as an astronomer.